

CHAPTER
21

The Cattle Kingdom

(1860–1890)

Tom Lea, "Cattle on an Early Mexican Hacienda," 1950.32



Texas cowboys and vaqueros wore fancy spurs while riding horses.

Early Spanish settlers introduced cattle ranching to Texas.



1863 The Texas cattle population increases rapidly during the Civil War.

1869 Texas cowboys move a herd of 15,000 cattle to market. It is the largest single herd of the era.

1873 Ranchers begin shipping thousands of cattle from Denison after the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad extends a line there.

U.S. and WORLD



1860

1863 People rush to what is now Montana after gold is discovered there.

1864

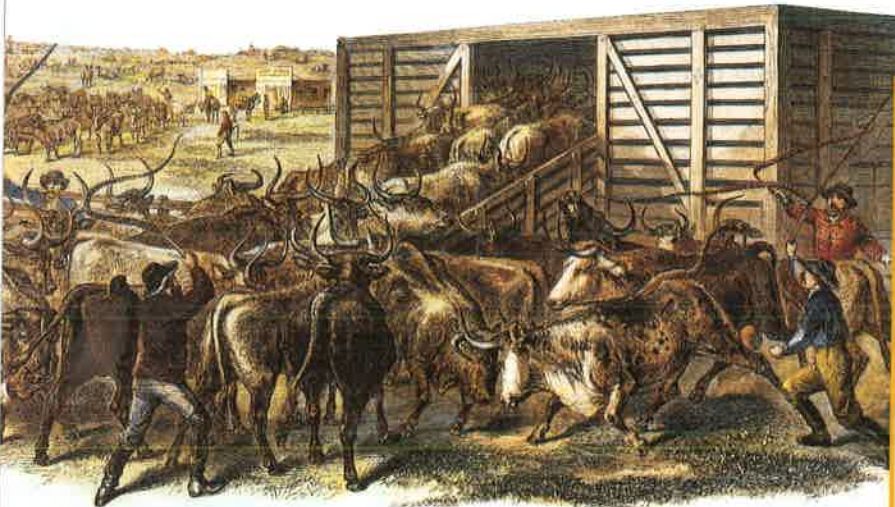
1867 The Kansas Pacific Railroad establishes a shipping point for cattle in Abilene, Kansas.

1868

1872

1873 The U.S. economy suffers a downturn, causing a temporary decline in the value of cattle.

After the long drive from Texas to Abilene, Kansas, cattle were loaded on railroad cars and shipped to eastern markets.



The Granger Collection, New York

Build on What You Know

Many U.S. settlers moved to the Texas frontier during the 1860s. These new settlers competed with American Indians for control of the land. As the frontier moved west, Texans drove cattle to sell them in out-of-state markets. Soon the state had a booming cattle industry.



Cattle stampedes were one of the many dangers cowboys faced.

This barbed-wire sample board advertises different types of wire.



1876 About 2,700 animals die during a cattle stampede near the Brazos River.

1882 A ranch in the Panhandle purchases enough barbed wire to fence 250,000 acres.

1876

1876 Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson work as law officers in the cattle town of Dodge City, Kansas.

1880

1880 Up to 21,000 cattle go through the Union Stockyards in Chicago every day.

1884

1886 Cowboys in Wyoming Territory stage a labor strike to protest a pay cut.

1888

You Be the Historian

Themes Journal



What's Your Opinion? Do you **agree** or **disagree** with the following statements? Support your point of view in your journal.

- **Culture** A region's culture is always dominated by its most important industries.
- **Economics** Events in one region rarely affect other regions economically.
- **Science, Technology & Society** New technologies negatively affect existing industries.

If you were there ...

Would you become a cattle rancher?



Early Cattle Ranching

Read to Discover

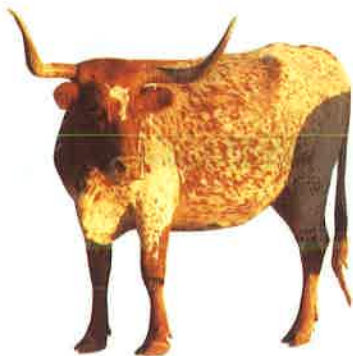
1. How did the Texas cattle industry develop from its Spanish beginnings?
2. What made the longhorn well suited for life in Texas?
3. How did the Civil War affect the Texas cattle industry?

Why It Matters Today

People have been ranching in Texas for about 300 years. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn more about the modern-day livestock industry. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- brands
- cattle drives
- rustlers
- longhorn
- Texas fever



Longhorns resulted from the breeding of Spanish cattle with English cattle.

The Story Continues

For years, traders regularly herded goats, hogs, and horses through the busy streets of New York City. Residents paid little attention to such livestock until longhorn cattle from Texas arrived. One local newspaper reported that the longhorns had “something of a wild look.” The newspaper also noted that their meat was “a little tough.” Beef-hungry New Yorkers did not mind. They paid about \$80 apiece for the scrawny longhorns.

★ Spanish Beginnings

The Spanish had firmly established cattle ranchos, or ranches, in Mexico in the 1500s. By the early 1700s the Spanish were moving herds north into Texas to support the missions they had established in the Rio Grande and San Antonio River valleys. These regions had a good climate and water supply, as well as plentiful grasses. Eventually, ranching in Texas shifted from missions to private owners. Tomás Sánchez de la Berrera y Garza owned one of the largest ranches, which was located near Laredo. Martín de León owned another huge cattle ranch in present-day Victoria County.

As the number of cattle ranches grew, disputes sometimes arose when ranchers lost track of which cattle they owned. The Spanish government began ordering cattle owners to put **brands**, or identification

marks made with hot metal, on their cattle. For example, de León's brand was EJ, which stood for Espíritu de Jesús, or "Spirit of Jesus." Tejano ranchers staged the first **cattle drives** in Texas, herding groups of cattle south of the Rio Grande to supply beef to Spanish military outposts. Ranchers also drove cattle from southeast Texas to Louisiana. Cattle ranching soon became an important part of the region's economy.

As U.S. settlers arrived in the early 1800s, ranching spread to other areas. Each region had its advantages. East Texas was relatively close to the cattle markets in New Orleans, while Central and South Texas had rich prairie grasses and moderate climates. After seeing the lush prairies, some U.S. settlers decided to become ranchers rather than farmers.

The Texas cattle industry slowly expanded in the 1840s. For example, Aaron Ashworth of Jefferson County had ranch holdings worth more than \$30,000. Some Texans began driving cattle to out-of-state markets. James Taylor White began to drive cattle from Liberty County to market in New Orleans, and in 1846 Edward Piper took a herd of Texas cattle to Ohio. After gold was discovered in California, some Texans drove a number of cattle west to help feed the growing population of miners.

Despite the growth of the cattle industry, ranchers faced several challenges. Cattle **rustlers**, or thieves, threatened the herds. A bigger hurdle was access to markets. The demand for cattle within Texas was limited because of the region's fairly small population. Ranchers could herd their stock to sell outside of Texas, but it was a difficult and often dangerous process.

★ Reading Check Sequencing Describe in order the development of the cattle industry in Texas from its Spanish beginnings.

Courtesy of the Witte Museum, San Antonio, Texas



Many Texas artists, such as Théodore Géricault, focused their works on the life of vaqueros and cowboys.



Vaqueros and Cowboys

Vaqueros were the first cowboys in Texas. Most vaqueros were skilled ropers and riders. Over time, Spanish practices combined with the practices of U.S. settlers to create a Texas cowboy tradition. Many Texans still wear cowboy fashions, particularly boots and hats. Museums and events around the state celebrate vaqueros and cowboys. For example, the Texas Cowboy Reunion in Stamford features wild-horse races. **How have cowboys influenced the culture of Texas?** **★ TEKS**

LONE STAR LEGACY

The Longhorn

During the 1800s longhorn beef fed thousands of Texans. Cowboys munched on jerky, or beef that has been dried in the sunshine. Other Texans ate beefsteaks fried in tallow, or grease. A poem described the longhorn's role in Texas history.

"Other states are carved or born;

Texas grew from hide and horn.

Other states are long or wide;

Texas is a shaggy hide."

How did Texas grow "from hide and horn"?



The Texas Longhorns

During the mid-1800s the **longhorn** appeared in Texas. This new breed of cattle developed as Spanish breeds mixed with English cattle brought by U.S. settlers. The longhorns were well suited to life in Texas, thriving on its native grasses. These lean strong animals could endure hot weather as well as cold. They even ate prickly pear cacti during droughts and could survive on little water. In addition, longhorns were resistant to the cattle disease commonly called **Texas fever**.

While older longhorns weighed up to 1,600 pounds, some people said the longhorn had too little meat. They called it "8 pounds of hamburger on 800 pounds of bone and horn." However, long legs allowed longhorns to travel great distances, and their horns protected them from mountain lions, wolves, and other predators. Mature animals had enormous pointed horns—some were five or more feet across. Early Texas settlers displayed these horns on their walls. They made buttons, cups, decorations, furniture, and household utensils from the horns. They even stored gunpowder in hollowed-out horns. Few animals were as useful to people on the Texas frontier.

The longhorns became more valuable as cattle ranching grew in the late 1850s. When the Civil War broke out, the demand for Texas beef increased rapidly. The Confederate army needed to feed the troops. However, as the war dragged on, Texans found it difficult to move their cattle to the front. By 1863 the Union army had blocked trade from Confederate states, including Texas. As a result, the number of cattle in Texas grew rapidly. By the end of the Civil War, about 5 million cattle roamed the state. Many of these animals were mavericks, or unclaimed cattle. After the war, Texans looked for new markets to sell their cattle.

Reading Check Finding the Main Idea How did the migration of U.S. settlers to Texas affect the cattle industry?



Section 1 Review



Questions 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4

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keyword: ST3 HP21

1 Define and explain:

- brands
- cattle drives
- rustlers
- longhorn
- Texas fever

2 Analyzing Information

Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to explain how the Texas cattle industry developed from its Spanish beginnings and throughout the Civil War.

Cattle Ranching in Spanish Texas



Early Ranching in Texas



Ranching during the Civil War

3 Finding the Main Idea

- How did physical factors influence the development of cattle ranching in Texas?
- Why were longhorn cattle important to the Texas cattle industry?

4 Writing and Critical Thinking

Drawing Inferences and Conclusions Imagine that you are an economist. Explain how free enterprise affected the Texas cattle industry. Consider the following:

- demand for cattle
- supply of cattle



Texas Cattle Trails

Read to Discover

1. How did the growing market for beef affect Texas ranchers?
2. What were some of the cattle trails, and why did cowboys stop using them?
3. What was life like on the trail?

Why It Matters Today

Texas cattle drivers had an on-the-move occupation. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn more about jobs that involve travel today. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

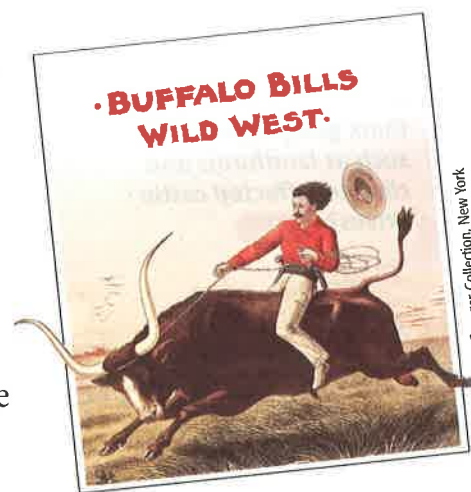
- stockyards
- open range
- remuda
- wrangler

Identify

- Sedalia Trail
- Chisholm Trail
- Jesse Chisholm
- Western Trail
- Charles Goodnight
- Goodnight-Loving Trail

The Story Continues

Abilene was just a dusty Kansas town until a businessman named Joseph McCoy decided to build a cattle market there. He formed a giant Wild West show that traveled by train to advertise his operations. The show featured trick riders and ropers as well as a 2,300-pound buffalo. Every time the train stopped, the performers and animals went into action. The show thrilled spectators. As word spread, many cattle buyers from the northeastern United States came to Abilene.



Wild West shows were popular attractions during the late 1800s and early 1900s.



The Cattle Drives

Demand for beef outpaced supply in the Northeast. The region had a large population, and its cattle supply had been greatly reduced by the Civil War. But in Texas the supply of cattle was greater than the demand for beef. As a result, cattle that sold for \$3 or \$6 a head in Texas sold for \$38 in Kansas or \$80 in New York.

Such high prices convinced Texas ranchers that they could make large profits by raising more cattle. However, ranchers could not drive longhorns to eastern markets because of the distance and the many populated farm areas the herds would have to cross. By 1865, **stockyards**, or huge holding pens, and packing houses were opening in Chicago. Soon,



Interpreting the Visual Record

Cattle drives. Texas ranchers and cowboys drove their herds of cattle hundreds of miles to sell them in out-of-state markets. **How do you think geographic factors, such as landforms and climate, affected cattle drives?** ★ TEKS

more beef-processing plants were built farther west, in St. Louis and Kansas City. These plants were built to prepare the beef for shipment to cities in the North and East. Railroads connected cities in midwestern states such as Missouri with the larger cities in the Northeast. To reach these additional markets, Texas ranchers needed a way to get their cattle to the nearest railroad lines.

Cattle drives provided the answer. During the fall and winter, cattle grazed on the **open range**, or unfenced lands, of Texas. One rancher wrote, “Cattle are permitted to range . . . over a large surface of the country, thirty, forty, and even fifty miles in extent [size].” As spring approached, cowboys gathered cattle together in a roundup. Cowboys caught as many mavericks as possible and branded them to establish ownership of the animals. When the grass turned green in the spring, cowboys drove the cattle north. Along the way, the cattle grazed on the open range.

During one large cattle drive in 1866, cowboys moved about 260,000 cattle north over the **Sedalia Trail**, which became known as the Shawnee Trail. This trail led from South Texas through Indian Territory to Sedalia, Missouri. Toward the end of the trail, problems arose. In Missouri and eastern Kansas, there was little open range left—much of the land was farmed. As the huge herds passed through, farmers’ crops were sometimes trampled. The longhorns also infected many other cattle by giving them ticks that carried Texas fever. Farmers became angry as their cattle died. Kansas and Missouri had already passed laws in an attempt to stop the cattle drives, and farmers began to turn back the Texas herds. The future of Texas cattle drives seemed uncertain.

★ **Reading Check Identifying Cause and Effect** Why was there a national market for beef, and how did demand affect the Texas cattle industry?

★ The Chisholm and Western Trails

Entrepreneur Joseph McCoy stepped in with a solution. McCoy knew that rail lines were moving farther west—by early 1867 tracks were being built in Kansas. State legislators there passed a law allowing cattle drives west of farm areas. McCoy arranged for the building of a cattle market complete with holding pens and loading chutes in Abilene, Kansas. McCoy made many improvements to the small town. Before he began, Abilene was, in McCoy’s words, “a very small dead place, consisting of about one dozen log huts.” McCoy even bargained with the Kansas Pacific Railroad to get special rates for shipping cattle to Chicago. To drum up business, McCoy sent scouts southward to urge Texas ranchers to bring their cattle to Abilene.

In 1867, Texas cowboys herded about 35,000 longhorns over the **Chisholm Trail**. The route to Abilene was named after **Jesse Chisholm**, a fur trader. The child of a Cherokee woman, Chisholm blazed the original trail in the mid-1860s to trade with American Indians. His trail went through Indian Territory to Kansas. The Chisholm Trail was an ideal route for the Texas cattle drives because it was not near farms. Over



After years of work, some ranchers became wealthy and could afford luxuries like this gold bull clock.



The Cattle Kingdom of Texas, 1865–1890

Interpreting Maps The use of cattle trails and railroads allowed Texas ranchers to sell their livestock in national markets.

TAKS Skills Human Systems How did railroad technology and cattle drives encourage an interdependence between Texas ranching and out-of-state cattle markets? **★ TEKS**

Interpreting the Visual Record

On the trail. At night, cowboys took turns watching over their herds. What does this painting show about cowboys' duties on the trail?



the next few years, even more cowboys used this trail to move their herds to Abilene.

In 1871 some 600,000 to 700,000 longhorns arrived in the cow town. At the end of the drive, most ranchers sold the animals for a good profit and paid the cowboys in cash. Weary cowboys spent their hard-earned money on hot baths, clean clothes, and good food. The large number of rowdy cowboys sometimes made cattle towns violent—at least until regular governments could be set up. Law-enforcement officials worked hard to keep the peace in the rough cattle towns. Cowboy Andy Adams warned that the Kansas cow town of Dodge City had strict law enforcement. “You can wear your six-shooters into town, but you’d better leave them at the first place you stop.”

Farms and towns eventually sprang up along the Chisholm Trail as Texas Indians were pushed farther west. Texas ranchers soon needed a new trail across the open range to the west of settled territory. The **Western Trail** was forged in 1874. The route ran north from Kerrville to Fort Griffin—well to the west of the new settlements. The trail crossed the Red River and continued through Indian Territory, ending at Dodge City in southwestern Kansas. By 1879 the Western Trail was the primary route for Texas cattle being moved north. This trail was very successful and was used until the closing of the open range.

★ **TEKS** **Reading Check Analyzing Information** Why did Texas ranchers stop using the Chisholm Trail and begin using the Western Trail?

Connecting To Literature

Andy Adams and Cowboy Stories

Some cowboys wrote about their adventures on cattle drives. Andy Adams wrote *The Log of a Cowboy*, in which he recalled a common but dangerous event—a stampede. “The cattle jumped from the bed ground and were off like a shot.” The cowboys managed to calm the cattle, but their horses were a different matter. “The horses . . . gave us a long, hard run.” **What does *The Log of a Cowboy* reveal about the cowboys’ way of life?** **★** **TEKS**

★ The Goodnight-Loving Trail

Not all of the cattle drives ended at railroad stockyards in Kansas. Ranchers also saw opportunities to profit by supplying cattle to military posts, mining camps, and American Indian reservations. **Charles Goodnight** and Oliver Loving were two cattlemen who looked beyond the eastern markets. In 1866 Goodnight and Loving combined their herds and set out for Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Their route became known as the **Goodnight-Loving Trail**. The trail ran from Young County west of Fort Worth, through San Angelo, across West Texas, north through New Mexico, and into Colorado. Over time, this trail became one of the most-traveled routes in the Southwest. Ranchers stopped using the trail when railroads came to Texas and eliminated the need for long cattle drives to rail lines.

Cowboy H. P. Cook participated in many drives to American Indian reservations in the West. He described his experiences on one trip:

Texas Voices

“The trip must have taken about six weeks going and returning. It was really tough, sleeping on the ground this trip, it was so wet and cold. I had just a couple of cotton quilts, and by morning there wasn’t a dry thread in them, it was so wet. I used my saddle for a pillow. We would move the fire over and flop down on the ground where the fire had been, which would stay warm for a while.”

—H. P. Cook, quoted in *Texas Cowboys*, edited by Jim Lanning

★ **Reading Check** Finding the Main Idea Why did Goodnight and Loving blaze a cattle trail?

★ Life on the Trail

Cowboys represented many ranchers and supervised many herds on the cattle drives. Some ranchers drove their own cattle, but most hired a drover, or a cattle drive operator. John Henry Stephens, a well-known drover, made large sums of money herding other people’s cattle to market. Cattle-herding outfits also included a trail boss, or a drive leader.

A typical cattle drive had 8 to 12 cowboys to care for 2,000 to 3,000 cattle. Mary Bunton, one of the few women to go on a trail drive, remembered the sight of so many cattle on the move. “I would turn in my saddle and look back, and it would look as if the entire face of the earth was just a moving mass of heads and horns.” Each cowboy used several horses in relays of two or three, so that a fresh mount was always available. The herd of these animals was known as the **remuda**, the Spanish word for “remount.” A **wrangler** cared for the crew’s horses.

The camp cook was another important member of the drive crew. Good food meant happy cowboys. The cook traveled ahead of the herd

Biography



Charles Goodnight
(1836–1929)

Born in Illinois, Charles Goodnight moved with his family to Texas at age nine. As a young man Goodnight entered the cattle business, managing a herd of wild cattle. In 1860 he served as a scout for the Texas Rangers. During the Civil War he served in the Frontier Regiment, patrolling the Texas Panhandle. The knowledge he gained about the region was useful when he helped establish the JA Ranch. Goodnight soon became one of the most successful ranchers in Texas. **How did Goodnight’s experiences help his ranching career?**





Loaded down with supplies and food for the cowboys, chuck wagons traveled ahead of the herd.

and had meals prepared when the rest of the outfit arrived. The cook's supplies were carried in the chuck wagon, or the covered supply wagon. A day on the trail began before sunrise. After a hot breakfast of bacon, beans, and biscuits, the cowboys would choose their horses from the remuda and start to move the cattle.

Two highly experienced cowboys called point men guided the herd, while other cowboys rode on the sides of the herd. Drag men traveled behind the herd. This was the drive's worst position because drag men "ate" dust the whole trip. On a good day, the herd would move 15 to 18 miles. About 5:00 P.M. or later, the crew stopped for the night. The dinner menu was usually beef or pork, but sometimes included "son-of-a-gun" stew. This thick soup was made from cow brain, heart, kidneys, liver, and tongue.

Trail drives were difficult and often dangerous. The sunshine was hot, and water was sometimes in short supply. Prairie fires swept across the plains, sometimes moving fast enough to overtake a cowboy on a galloping horse. Cowboys encountered bad weather, and rustlers tried to steal the livestock. In his diary, one cowboy described an unpleasant cattle drive.

Analyzing Primary Sources

Making Generalizations and Predictions Why might cowboys like George Duffield have continued to go on cattle drives despite the hardships?

Texas Voices

"Awful night . . . not having a bit to eat for 60 hours . . . Tired. . . Oh! what a night—Thunder Lightning & rain—we followed our Beeves [cattle] all night as they wandered about. . . We Hauled cattle out of the Mud with oxen half the day. . . My back is Blistered bad. . . Found a Human skeleton on the Prairie to day."

—George Duffield, quoted in *The Cowboys*, by William H. Forbis



Reading Check Categorizing Who made up a typical cattle-driving crew, and what were their responsibilities?

Section 2 Review



Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5

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keyword: ST3 HP21

1 Define and explain:

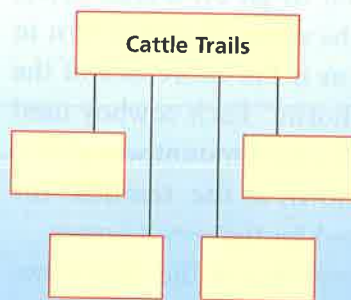
- stockyards
- open range
- remuda
- wrangler

2 Identify and explain:

- Sedalia Trail
- Chisholm Trail
- Jesse Chisholm
- Western Trail
- Charles Goodnight
- Goodnight-Loving Trail

3 Categorizing

Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to show the four main trails and where they began and ended.



4 Finding the Main Idea

- How did national demand for beef affect the cattle industry in Texas?
- Explain how expansion on the frontier and railroads affected the different cattle trails.

5 Writing and Critical Thinking



Summarizing Imagine that you are a cowboy on a cattle drive. Write a letter to a friend describing the realities of life on the trail.

Consider the following:

- your daily routine
- the many dangers on the trail

Ranches, Ranchers, and Cowboys

Read to Discover

1. In what Texas regions was ranching a big industry, and why did ranches develop there?
2. What were ranching and cowboy life like?
3. How did cowboys contribute to Texas culture?

Why It Matters Today

Cowboys worked hard on Texas ranches. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn more about modern-day cowboys or other farmworkers. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- windmills

Identify

- Cattle Kingdom
- King Ranch
- Henrietta King
- Margaret Borland
- JA Ranch
- XIT Ranch
- Bose Ikard
- Charles Siringo

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Research Center, Canyon, Texas

The Story Continues

Molly Goodnight, the wife of Texas rancher Charles Goodnight, loved to entertain. But visitors were rare on the isolated JA Ranch in the Panhandle. One evening a visiting cowboy brought three live chickens as a gift. He wanted Mrs. Goodnight to cook them, but she decided to keep them as pets. In a letter to her sister, she wrote, “You’ve no idea how much company a chicken can be.”



Molly Goodnight owned a herd of cattle that was marked with her brand.

★ Ranching in South Texas

During the 1800s the cattle ranches that arose on the open range from Texas to Canada formed the **Cattle Kingdom**. The **King Ranch** in South Texas was one of the most important cattle operations in the state. Richard King and Gideon Lewis established the ranch in Nueces County in the early 1850s. King died in 1885, leaving his wife to run the ranch. **Henrietta King** and her son-in-law, Robert Kleberg, built the King Ranch into a thriving operation. By 1925 it included more than 1 million acres of land. King used her wealth to develop South Texas. She gave land for the towns of Kingsville and Raymondville, and she donated land and money for churches and schools. King also helped establish Texas A&M University–Kingsville.

Texas Cities



Amarillo and Lubbock

History: Businesspeople established Amarillo in 1887. It boomed as a large cattle-shipping location. Ranchers and farmers settled the general area of present-day Lubbock in the 1870s. The town was formed in 1890.

Amarillo population in 2000: 173,627

Lubbock population in 2000: 199,564

Relative location: Northwest Texas

Region: Panhandle

County: Amarillo is the county seat of Potter County, and Lubbock is the county seat of Lubbock County.

Origin of Name: Spanish herders called the area of present-day Amarillo *amarillo*, or “yellow,” to describe the local soil and flowers. The county of Lubbock was named for Thomas S. Lubbock, a Texas Civil War veteran.

Economy: Amarillo relies on ranching, oil, and manufacturing. Lubbock has important industrial, technological, and agricultural businesses. Lubbock is the home of Texas Tech University. Lubbock is also a leading cotton producer.



Other large ranches developed in South Texas, where the climate was well suited to cattle ranching. Manuel Guerra owned a large ranch in Starr County. Like King and other big ranchers, Guerra was an important leader in South Texas. Another successful South Texas rancher, **Margaret Borland**, owned more than 10,000 cattle by 1873. That same year she led a trail drive to Kansas. Borland is believed to be the only woman to head up a trail drive. She took three of her children—all under age 15—and her granddaughter on the drive.

Reading Check Analyzing Information How did cattle ranchers like Henrietta King affect the social development of Texas towns?

Ranches in the Panhandle

By the early 1880s cattle ranching was a thriving and profitable industry in many parts of Texas. As Plains Indians were removed from West Texas, the Panhandle was opened up for ranching. The grass that covered the plains provided plenty of food for the cattle. In addition, the region’s flat open land was well suited for cattle ranching because it allowed ranchers to keep close watch on the livestock. Although there were not enough rivers to water the cattle, the Ogallala Aquifer lay underneath the region. Ranchers adapted to the environment by using **windmills** to reach this huge supply of water. Windmills operate on a simple principle. The wind blows against a vane that turns the blades into the breeze. The wind then hits the blades, creating power to operate a pump. This power brings underground water to the surface.

In the mid-1870s Charles Goodnight and John Adair established one of the first ranches in the Panhandle—the **JA Ranch** in Palo Duro Canyon. The canyon had a good supply of grass and offered

shelter from the harsh winds that swept across the region. The JA Ranch became large and successful. By the mid-1880s it covered more than 700,000 acres and supported about 40,000 cattle. Other pioneers also established ranches in the Panhandle. Thomas Sherman Bugbee built the Quarter Circle T Ranch in Hutchinson County. Another large ranch, the Matador, was founded in 1878. These ranches helped bring prosperity to the Panhandle.

Corporations, often funded by investors from the northern United States and from Great Britain, moved into the Panhandle along with the ranchers. The **XIT Ranch** was established in 1885 when the state gave the land to the Capitol Freehold Land and Investment Company. This company was funded by investors from Chicago and Britain. In return, the investors agreed to construct a new state capitol building to replace the one that had burned in 1881. The new capitol was completed in 1888 and is still the seat of Texas government.

Over time, the XIT Ranch became one of the largest and most famous ranches in Texas. The XIT covered about 3 million acres, extending nearly 200 miles along the Texas–New Mexico border—an area almost the size of Connecticut. At its peak, the XIT employed about 150 cowboys to care for roughly 150,000 cattle.

Reading Check Summarizing Why did ranching develop in the Panhandle, and what are some of ranching's political legacies?

★ Ranchers and Cowboys

Most Texas ranches were located far from towns. Ranchers had to rely on their own resources to solve the many challenges they faced. Mary Jaques outlined the skills needed by ranchers. “The ideal ranchman must be butcher, baker, carpenter, . . . blacksmith, plain cook, milker.” Female ranchers handled many tasks. In addition to herding and branding livestock, they raised children and operated households. Mrs. C. C. West helped manage a sheep ranch in West Texas. She remembered



Interpreting the Visual Record

Ranch life. Cowboys who worked on Texas ranches had many jobs, including training horses and branding cattle. **What traditional cowboy clothing are these ranch workers wearing?**

That's

Interesting!

The XIT Ranch

The ranch took its name from the XIT brand that a drover created. The block letters made it difficult for cattle rustlers to change. Some people disagree with this story about the ranch's name, however. They claim—because the roman numeral X stands for 10—that XIT stood for “ten In Texas,” or the 10 counties that contained the ranchland. Other people argue that it stood for “biggest in Texas.”

CONNECTING TO THE ARTS

Western Artists

In this painting, *Roping a Steer*, artist and former cowboy Edward Borein shows a cowboy at work. Roping cattle was an essential skill for cowboys.

How does this painting capture the difficulty of roping a running steer?



“living under a tree, herding sheep with my babe in my arms and using one big skillet for a whole kitchen outfit.”

Ranchers could never have succeeded without cowboys, who did countless daily tasks on the ranches. Most cowboys were young men, and many were Mexican American or African American. One cowboy remembered his ranch crew. “There were about 50 cowboys at the head-quarter ranch; a few Mexicans, and a few [African Americans] among them.” Although they sometimes faced discrimination, some African American cowboys went on to own their own ranches and farms. For example, **Bose Ikard** supervised trail drives and directed some of the operations at Charles Goodnight’s ranch. He eventually bought land in Parker County. African American Daniel W. Wallace went on many trail drives as a teenager. Even as a young cowboy, Wallace carefully saved and managed his earnings. He eventually bought a ranch that covered at least 1,200 acres and included some 500 head of cattle.

Texas cowboys wore clothes and used tools that were suited to the state’s environment. Some cowboys wore the familiar cowboy hat, while others wore the vaqueros’ broad felt hat. Many cowboys wore sombreros to protect themselves from the harsh sunlight and rain. Cowboys relied on leather chaps worn over their pants to protect them from thorny bushes. All cowboys used a long light rope called a lariat, from the Spanish *la reata*. Cowboys sometimes called their ropes “lassos” instead of lariats. The word *lasso* came from the Spanish word *lazo*. These and other terms reflect the Spanish heritage of ranching in Texas.



Reading Check Finding the Main Idea Identify examples of Spanish influence on vocabulary that originated in Texas cattle ranching.

★ Cowboy Culture

Over time, cowboys became an important part of American popular culture. Inexpensive novels featured countless cowboy heroes such as Arizona Joe, Denver Dan, and Fancy Frank. The novels glorified cowboy life. Wild West shows were also popular, using colorful posters to attract large crowds. Some people believed that western novels and shows accurately portrayed cowboy life. According to the myths, cowboys were fearless, happy, and worry free. They spent their days roaming through rugged but gorgeous landscapes.

The realities of cowboy life were far different from the myths. Cowboys faced many dangers, including blizzards, floods, and stampedes. These hazards injured and killed many cowboys. Cowboys also worked hard for hours on end. During trail drives, some cowboys rode 24 hours at a stretch and slept in their saddles. For their work most cowboys earned low salaries of about \$300 per year. Cowboy **Charles Siringo** worked for the Rancho Grande Company for two years without receiving a regular paycheck. After subtracting his purchases at the ranch store, he earned just 75 cents for two years. Some, like Siringo, found it very difficult to make ends meet after buying what they needed for work.

Texas Voices

“We had unlimited credit at the company store. My credit was stretched almost to the breaking point in purchasing a cowboy outfit, such as saddle, bridle, spurs, pistol, bowie-knife, bedding, sombrero, silk handkerchiefs, slicker [rain coat], high-heel boots, etc.”

—Charles Siringo, *A Lone Star Cowboy*

★ **Reading Check** **Contrasting** How did the myths differ from the realities of the cowboy way of life?

CONNECTING TO Music

Cowboy Songs

Cattle were nervous creatures, particularly at night, so cowboys sang to help keep them calm and peaceful. Some trail bosses even auditioned cowboys before hiring them. Cowboy songs were often slow and sad. Cattle seemed to like these soothing tunes. “The Old Chisholm Trail” was one popular song.

“I’m up in the mornin’
afore daylight
And afore I sleep the
moon shines bright.
Oh, it’s bacon and beans
most every day—
I’d as soon be a-eatin’
prairie hay.”

Why might the “The Old Chisholm Trail” have been soothing to cowboys as well as their cattle? ★ TEKS



Section 3 Review



Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5



Homework Practice Online

keyword: ST3 HP21

1 Define and explain:

- windmills

2 Identify and explain:

- Cattle Kingdom
- King Ranch
- Henrietta King
- Margaret Borland
- JA Ranch
- XIT Ranch
- Bose Ikard
- Charles Siringo

3 Categorizing

Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to identify some of the myths and realities of cowboy life that became part of Texas culture.

Myths

Realities

4 Finding the Main Idea

- In what parts of the state was ranching a big industry, and why did ranches develop there?
- List examples of the Spanish influence on vocabulary related to cattle ranching in Texas.

5 Writing and Critical Thinking

Analyzing Information Write an advertisement that encourages ranchers to establish operations in the Panhandle. Consider the following:

- the availability of land and water
- innovations such as the windmill



The Closing of the Open Range

Read to Discover

1. How did barbed wire affect the development of Texas?
2. What contributed to the decline of the Cattle Kingdom?

Why It Matters Today

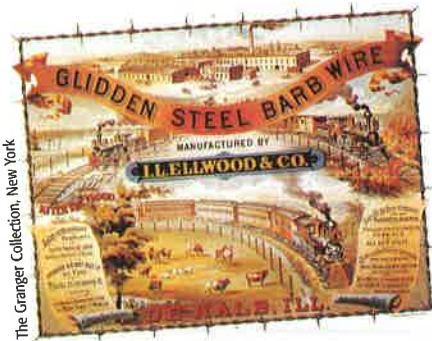
Technological innovations changed the Texas frontier. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn more about new technology and scientific discoveries that affect the world today. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- barbed wire
- range wars

Identify

- Joseph F. Glidden



The Granger Collection, New York

Joseph F. Glidden invented barbed wire in the 1870s. This advertisement shows the benefits of the new technology.

The Story Continues

John Warne Gates, an eager salesman, saw a golden opportunity to increase sales of barbed wire in Texas. In 1878 he held a demonstration in downtown San Antonio to advertise his product. Gates fenced a holding pen with barbed wire and stocked it with a herd of wild longhorns. Although the longhorns were strong and mean, the barbed wire held them back. The crowds were very impressed, and sales of barbed wire in Texas skyrocketed.

★ Fencing the Open Range

Farmers moving into West Texas wanted to fence their land to protect their crops from stray cattle. Some ranchers also tried to fence in their land. But building long fences was difficult because wood was scarce on the open plains. **Joseph F. Glidden**, a farmer in De Kalb, Illinois, answered this challenge. After his wife asked him to create a fence to keep dogs out of her garden, he developed **barbed wire** in 1873. These barbs kept cattle off the fences without hurting the animals. Glidden quickly opened a factory to make his product. Soon, inexpensive barbed wire was readily available. The sharp wire fences even survived the strong Texas winds. One advertisement described barbed wire as “light as air . . . and cheap as dirt.”

Many people, particularly small-scale ranchers, disliked the idea of fencing the range. Over time, however, the idea became more popular.

The new invention made large-scale fencing both easy and inexpensive. By the end of the 1880s, there were barbed-wire fences in nearly every Texas county. This marked the end of the open range in Texas.

★ **TEKS** **Reading Check Identifying Cause and Effect** What innovation was widely used in the 1880s, and how did it affect the use of land?

★ The Range Wars

Widespread fencing led to conflict in Texas in the early 1880s. Owners of small properties complained that they were being surrounded by the fences of giant cattle companies. Fencing became so extensive that public roads were blocked and mail delivery was interrupted. Many large ranchers fenced off water sources even though they did not own the land. Ranchers who let their cattle roam free complained that fencing cut their cattle off from water sources. This issue became critical when Texas was hit by a drought in 1883 and cattle began to die of thirst. Before long, **range wars** broke out. Under the cover of darkness, ranchers snipped the barbed-wire fences. A Gainesville farmer found a note that read, “If you don’t make gates, we will make them for you.” In Coleman County, cutters destroyed 500 miles of barbed-wire fences. Other ranchers, usually wealthy cattle operators, struck back. They hired guards to protect their fences, and gunfights sometimes broke out.

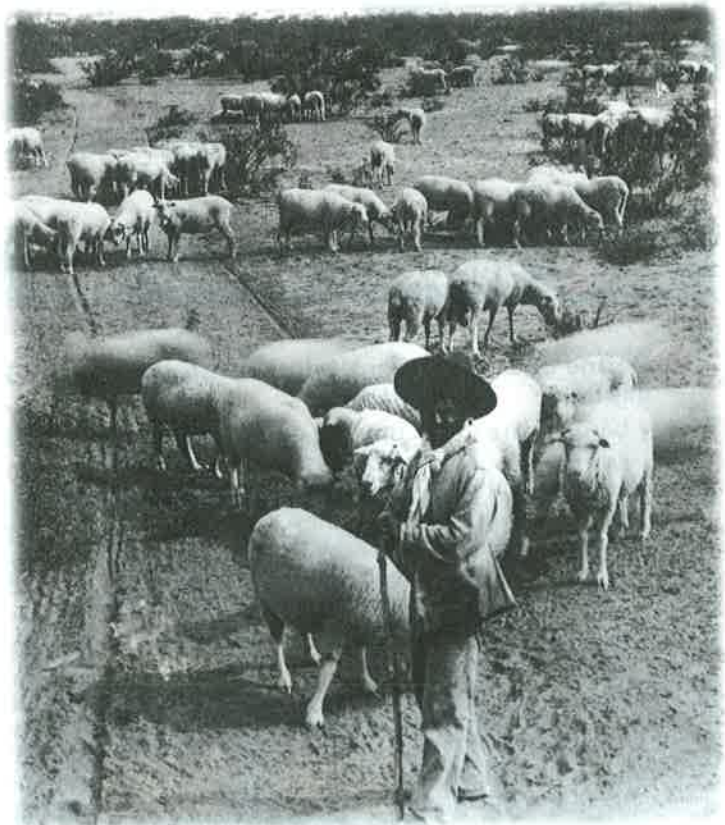
Fence cutting soon became an important political issue. In 1884 Governor John Ireland called an emergency session of the legislature. After heated debate, it passed a law making fence cutting illegal. The law also required a gate in every three miles of fence to allow passage for roads and railroads. In addition, the law banned people from fencing land they did not own or lease. The governor sent out the Texas Rangers to enforce the law.

Cattle ranchers also came into conflict with sheep ranchers. The Spanish had introduced sheep ranching to Texas in the early 1700s. By the time of the range wars, most sheep ranching in Texas took place in the state’s southern and western regions. Cattle ranchers were angry because sheep ate the grass all the way to the root, making it useless for cattle.

★ **Reading Check Analyzing Information** How did the ranchers’ use of fencing spark a political controversy?

Interpreting the Visual Record

Sheep ranching. As sheep ranching expanded in the late 1800s, many Mexican Americans worked as *pastores*, or herders, on Texas ranches. **In what ways do you think sheep ranching is similar to and different from cattle ranching?**



**CONNECTING TO
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

**Barbed Wire and
Windmills**

Barbed wire consists of two wires. The first wire is long. The second is cut into short sharp pieces that are twisted around the long portion. The wire is very effective at keeping livestock in or out of fields. Inventors tinkered with windmills by adding a vane to allow the windmill's wheel to turn into the wind. This ensured that the wheel would turn whenever a breeze was present, continuously pumping water. **How did these technical innovations affect Texas?** ★ TEKS



Machine used to make barbed wire

★ **Legacy of the Open Range**

Toward the end of the 1880s, the open range began to disappear. After the introduction of windmills, farmers and their crops were expanding onto the plains. Sheep ranching was also expanding in the late 1800s. Greater demand for woolen textiles in New England led to a rise in wool prices. Texas ranchers, particularly in regions with dry climates and more-rugged land, began to turn to sheep herding. Many cattle ranchers resented these changes.

The cattle industry changed in other ways as well. Severe winters in the 1880s caused the death of thousands of open-range cattle and thus cut down on the number of cattle drives. Many ranches went out of business. Many ranchers had expanded too quickly and allowed overgrazing of their land to occur. Years of heavy use had stripped the grass and damaged the soil itself. Some cattle operators sold their land to farmers. The new trends limited job opportunities for cowboys. In addition, the extension of railroad lines to Texas eventually ended the need for long cattle drives. Newly invented refrigerator cars could move processed beef to eastern cities. Large ranches remained, but the era of the open range was over.

Despite the decline of the cattle era, the industry created an important legacy in Texas. Throughout the world, people associate Texas with cowboys and cattle ranchers. Many Texans still raise and sell cattle. In addition, tourists visit Texas to watch rodeos and tour cattle operations such as the King Ranch. Cattle ranching continues to contribute to the state's economy.

★ TEKS **Reading Check Summarizing** What two technological innovations came to the open range, and how did they affect the cattle industry?



Section 4 Review

★ TEKS Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5

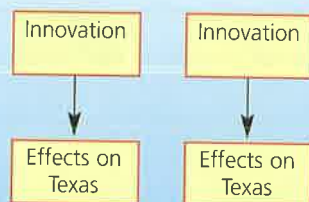
go.hrw.com Homework Practice Online

keyword: ST3 HP21

- 1 Define and explain:**
- barbed wire
 - range wars

- 2 Identify and explain:**
- Joseph F. Glidden

- 3 Identifying Cause and Effect**
- Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to explain what innovations came into use in the 1870s and 1880s and how they influenced the development of Texas.



- 4 Finding the Main Idea**
- How did the development of the railroad affect the Texas cattle industry?
 - How did the cattle and sheep ranchers use of land contribute to the decline of the Cattle Kingdom?

- 5 Writing and Critical Thinking** **TAKS**
- Supporting a Point of View** Imagine that you are a Texas rancher who either supports or opposes fencing the open range. Write a letter to your neighbor expressing your viewpoint. Consider the following:

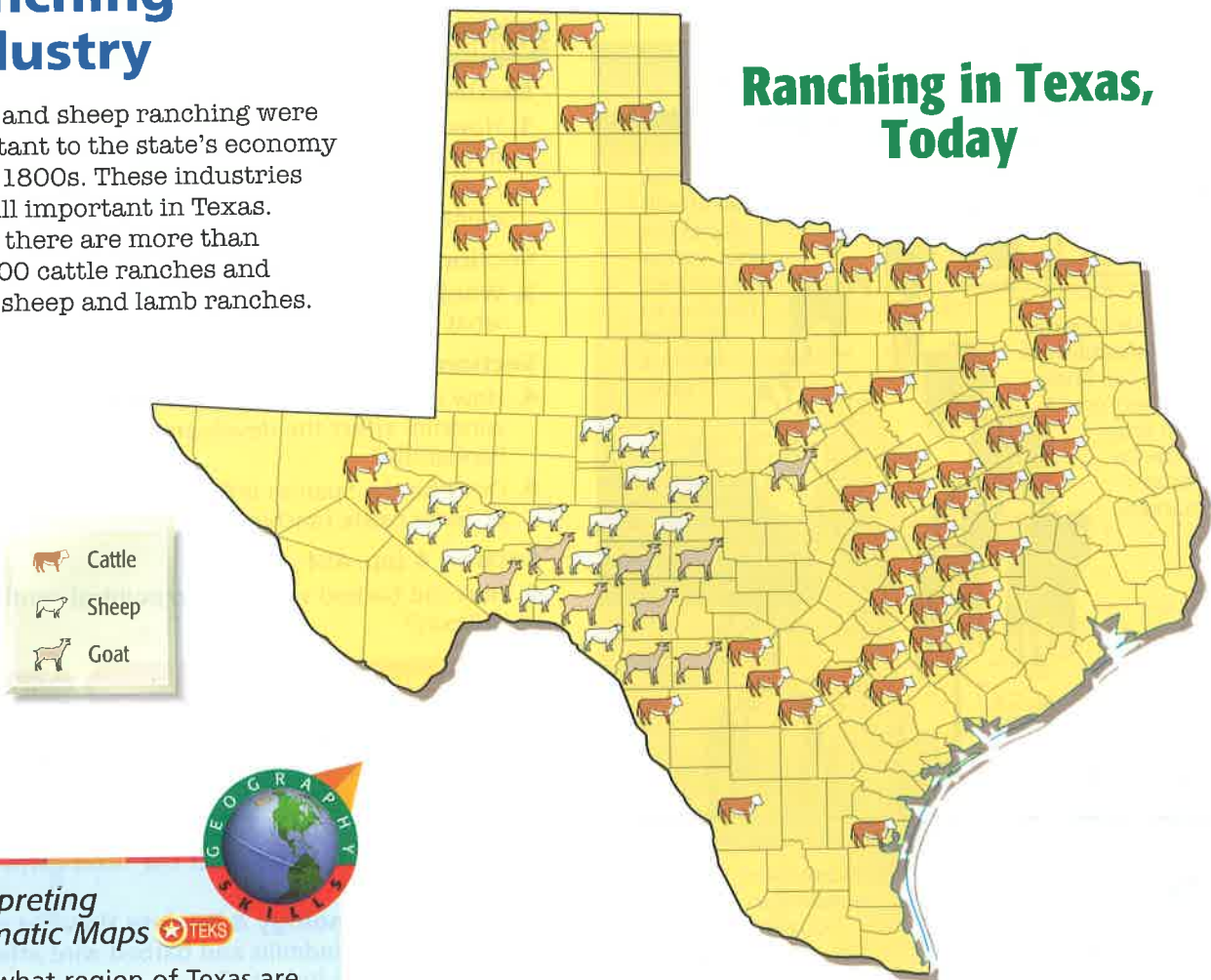
- the economic consequences of fencing
- the political consequences of fencing

Connecting To Geography & Math

The Texas Ranching Industry

Cattle and sheep ranching were important to the state's economy in the 1800s. These industries are still important in Texas. Today there are more than 280,000 cattle ranches and 7,000 sheep and lamb ranches.

Ranching in Texas, Today



Interpreting Thematic Maps




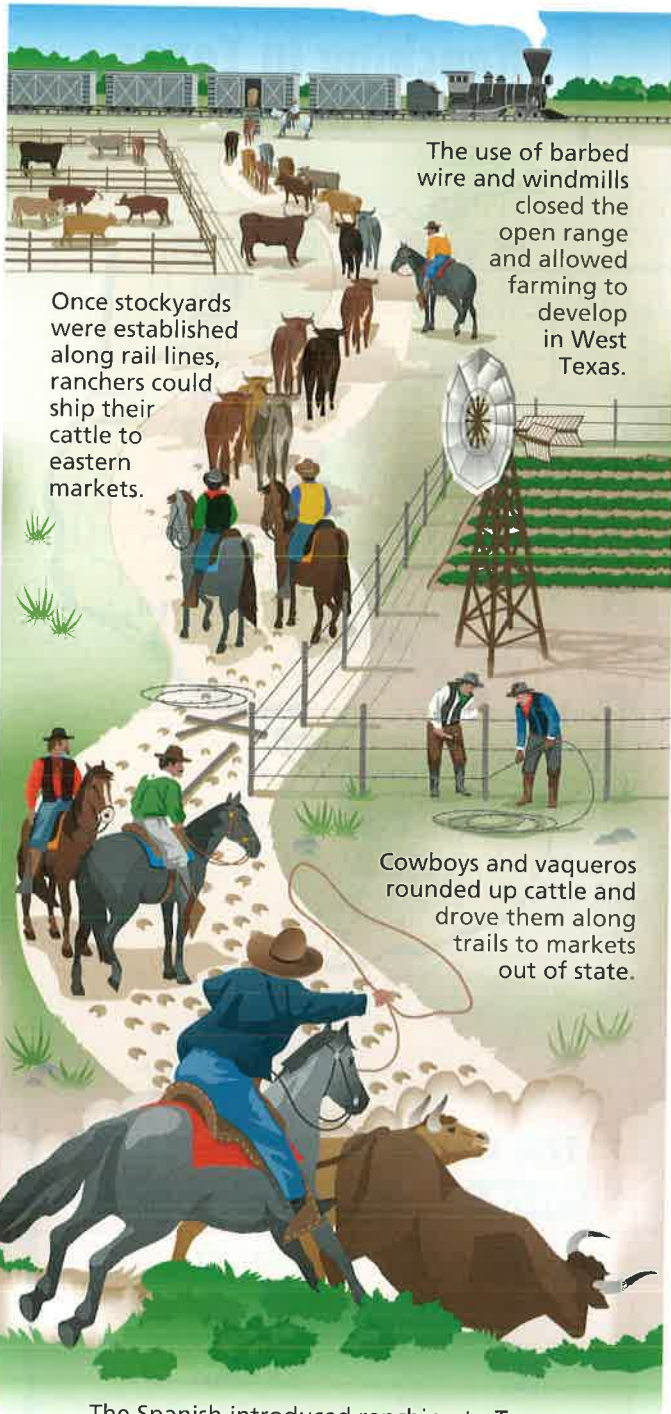
1. In what region of Texas are most cattle raised?
2. In what region of Texas are most goats and sheep raised?
3. Use the information in the table below to create a bar graph showing the growth in the cattle population in Texas.
4. What was the increase in the number of cattle in Texas between 1840 and 1850?
5. How many more cattle were raised in Texas c. 2000 than in 1860?

The Cattle Boom in Texas

YEAR	NUMBER OF CATTLE
1840	124,397
1850	917,524
1860	3.8 million
c. 2000	14.5 million

The Chapter at a Glance

Examine the following visual summary of the chapter. Then use the visual to create flash cards about the chapter. Use the flash cards to drill with a partner. 



The use of barbed wire and windmills closed the open range and allowed farming to develop in West Texas.

Once stockyards were established along rail lines, ranchers could ship their cattle to eastern markets.

Cowboys and vaqueros rounded up cattle and drove them along trails to markets out of state.

The Spanish introduced ranching to Texas.

Identifying People and Ideas

Use the following terms or people in historically significant sentences:

1. brands
2. cattle drives
3. longhorn
4. Texas fever
5. Jesse Chisholm
6. Goodnight-Loving Trail
7. Henrietta King
8. XIT Ranch
9. Joseph F. Glidden
10. range wars

Understanding Main Ideas

Section 1 (pp. 440–442)

1. How was the Texas cattle industry affected by the migration of U.S. settlers to Texas?
2. How did physical factors influence the development of ranching in Texas?

Section 2 (pp. 443–448)

3. Which cattle trails did Texas cowboys use, and what were cattle drives like?

Section 3 (pp. 449–453)

4. How did the technological innovation of the windmill affect the development of the Texas Panhandle?
5. Describe the Spanish influence on the vocabulary of Texas cattle ranching.

Section 4 (pp. 454–456)

6. How did barbed wire lead to political conflict in Texas?

You Be the Historian

Reviewing Themes

1. **Culture** Describe some myths and realities of cowboy life.
2. **Economics** How did demand for beef in the eastern United States affect the Texas cattle industry?
3. **Science, Technology & Society** How did the invention of windmills and barbed wire affect the Texas cattle industry?



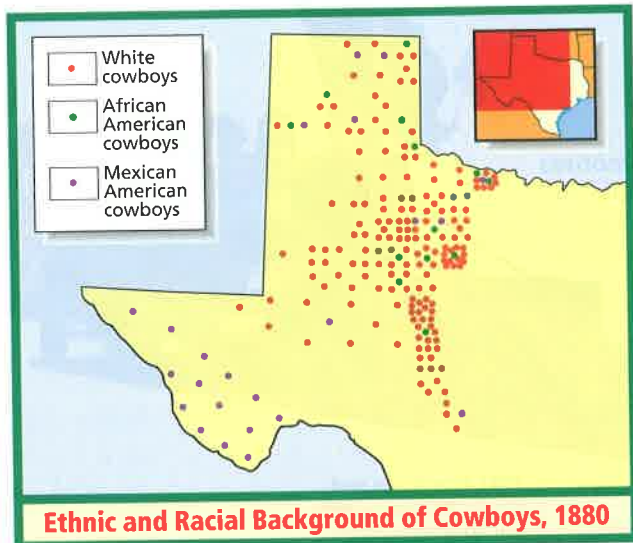
TAKS

Practice: Thinking Critically

1. **Sequencing** Trace in order the development of the Texas cattle industry from its Spanish beginnings to the Cattle Kingdom.
2. **Analyzing Information** In what ways did cattle ranchers adapt to and modify the environment, and what were some of the consequences?
3. **Summarizing** What were some of the defining characteristics of the cattle era in Texas history?

Interpreting Maps ★TEKS

Study the map below. Then use the information on the map to help you answer the questions that follow.



- Which group of cowboys worked mostly in the far west region of Texas?
 - white cowboys
 - African American cowboys
 - Mexican American cowboys
 - all of the above
- Why do you think these cowboys worked in that region of Texas?

Analyzing Primary Sources ★TEKS

Read the following song written by cowboy E. C. "Teddy Blue" Abbott. Then answer the questions.

"As I was out walking one morning for pleasure,
 I spied a cowpuncher come riding along.
 His hat was thrown back and his spurs were
 a-janglin',
 And as he rode by he was singing this song:

'Whoopee ti yi yo—git along, little dogies,
 It's your misfortune, and none of my own.
 Whoopee ti yi yo—git along, little dogies,
 You know that Wyoming will be your new home.'

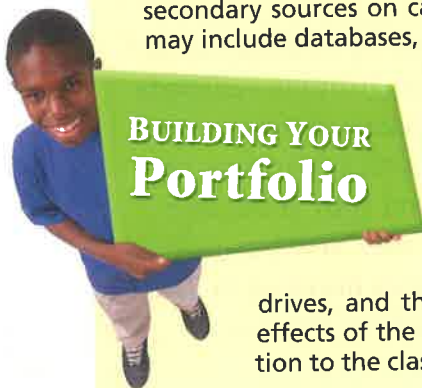
Early in the springtime we'll round up the dogies,
 Slap on their brands, and bob off their tails;
 Round up our horses, load up the chuck wagon,
 Then throw those dogies upon the trail."

- Which of the following events was E. C. "Teddy Blue" Abbott describing?
 - a cattle drive
 - a group of calves going to their mothers
 - a line of dogs beginning to hunt foxes
 - a Wild West show
- What do you think the cowpuncher meant when he sang, "It's your misfortune, and none of my own"?

Alternative Assessment

Cooperative Learning ★TEKS

Work with a small group to research primary and secondary sources on cattle ranching. These resources may include databases, media and news services, biographies, interviews, and artifacts. Use the sources to create an oral or multimedia presentation about the Texas cattle industry in the 1800s. Consider the myths and realities of cowboy life, technological innovations, cattle drives, and the political, economic, or social effects of the industry. Deliver your presentation to the class.



Internet connect

Internet Activity: go.hrw.com
 KEYWORD: ST3 TX21



Access the Internet through the HRW Go site to research the King Ranch and boom and bust cycles in the ranching industry today. Create an illustrated time line that shows how the King Ranch has changed since it was founded. Be sure to trace the cycles of boom and bust and its effects on ranching. Use the time line to create a quiz and answer key about ranching in Texas.

